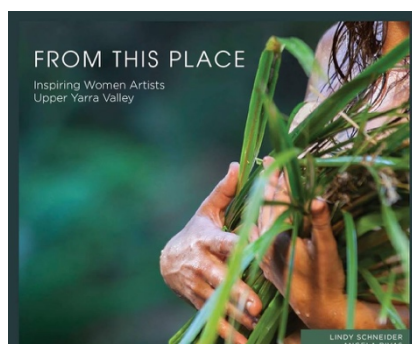


MEDIA RELEASE SEPTEMBER 2017

‘An exploration into women and their art in a rural community in the Yarra Valley reveals an important message for creativity no matter where you live.’



FROM THIS PLACE – Inspiring Women Artists of the Upper Yarra Valley is a book and exhibition by Lindy Schneider, writer, and Angela Rivas, photographer.

For a project that started as an exploration into why so many women artists chose to live and work in Warburton, the book and exhibition that are the creative artefacts of *From This Place* offer a visually stunning and a universally compelling insight into the many ways women create lives that sustain their art practice.

Creators Angela Rivas, photographer, and Lindy Schneider, writer, lovingly take us into the studios and lives of fourteen women artists from their hometown in the Yarra Valley. They feature women that could be your neighbour, of every age and medium (there are painters, poets, potters, scenographers, sculptors, authors and more), with the wise words of the artists as moving as the ‘Essence’ portraits that define the visual heart and soul of the book.

To create something of real beauty, both Angela and Lindy have nurtured this independent work into being for more than two years. During that time, they have found themselves living out the very themes that define the stories in this book. The value of community and collaboration, the need to live authentically and courageously take a leap of faith from time to time, the unfettered belief that what is created is of value are all themes that permeate not only the book but also their own lives.

The stories, told against the backdrop of mountains, forests and the Yarra River provides a theme in which nature and the river is the thread by which all stories are connected, and are motifs that can be felt by any reader, anywhere in the world. Together, Angela and Lindy have also sensitively explored and documented the intersecting themes of community, art, collaboration, body image and working sustainably as artists.

‘We wanted to create a project that could be an inspiration to others,’ says Angela, who has a profound interest in bringing out the beauty in women, evident in her ‘Essence’ portraits, where each artist was supported to create their ‘ultimate’ photo shoot.

‘We followed a shared impulse to pursue this project feeling that it was a wonderful opportunity to work creatively in the way we ached for, while also supporting our women artists by helping raise their profiles,’ says Lindy. ‘We all rise together.’ The ripple effect will mean the inspiration and beauty of this book will be felt by many women for a long time to come.

‘Community and art don’t exist without each other.’ END

The book is a 128 full colour hardcover art book is a lasting treasure that showcases the artists and their work, but also allows us to share in their inner stories of courage, hope, love and togetherness. Stories of finally saying yes, of heartfelt longings set free to shape new lives, regardless of age, or stage, or medium. The exhibition, which features 16 large format 'Essence' portraits will be shown at three locations between September 2017 and March 2018. They are images you will fall into, and feel from the inside. They are creative, visionary and capture the uniqueness of each woman. They reveal a beauty that is essential, unequivocal, a gift to the world.
ISBN 9780646971438 – available from all good bookstores

ARTISTS FEATURED

Belinda Rogers, Sioux Dollman, Marlee Nebauer, Jena Bedson, Maya Ward, Adrienne Kneebone, Kate Baker, Shlomit Moria, Indigo Perry, Gillian Farrow, Lucy Pierce, Jo Rothwell, Jenny Davis and Jeminah Alli Reidy. Profiles on www.fromthisplace.net

Lindy Schneider and Angela Rivas are now available for media interviews and live events.

Please contact Lindy Schneider: 0417 365 697 or Angela Rivas: 0428 591 638

Images can be supplied on request. Talking points include: the self-publishing journey, the art of collaboration, body image, women and sustainable art practices, living from the heart, Nature, the Yarra Valley and sense of place.

LINKS

www.fromthisplace.net

www.facebook.com/fromthisplaceYarraValley

[IG fromthisplaceyv](https://www.instagram.com/fromthisplaceyv)

Promo video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h0qgaJqpX6I&feature=youtu.be>

The project has been funded by Angela and Lindy, the Yarra Ranges Council, the Warburton and Yarra Junction Community Bank® Branches and 146 Pozible supporters through a crowdfunding campaign.

EXHIBITION SCHEDULE

Friday 1 September to 3 October 2017 Warburton Arts Centre [More info](#)

(LAUNCHED – Friday 1 September)

5 October to late November 2017 [Oscars by the Yarra](#) for [Yarra Valley Open Studios](#)

26 November 2017 to 26 January 2018 - Yarra Ranges Regional Museum Arts Centre

WHO WE ARE



Angela Rivas is a Commercial freelance and Portrait photographer with AIPP standing. She has worked for lifestyle magazines and photographic studios and has a BA in Visual Arts. She did specialist teaching and runs workshops empowering people with their cameras. At the moment, she has a special interest in supporting women to shine, and loves life.

www.lunasolphotography.com



Lindy Schneider is a freelance writer. Her most recent book is 'Visionary Man, Visionary Medicine - The story of Professor Avni Sali and Integrative Medicine'. She has a postgraduate qualification in writing, and is a qualified arts therapist. Her writing is devoted to 'elevating the feminine' and encouraging women to live wildly. She has a love for rescuing horses and human flourishing. www.lindyschneider.com.au

The project was conceptualised and developed in Warburton where Lindy and Angela live.